Seeds Developed by Navdanya Gene Bank

1689. SHRI K. R. MALKANI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that desi seeds developed by Navdanya Gene Bank's "Beej Bachao Andolan" give higher yields, more fodder and a nutritious output in varying atmospheric conditions as reported in the 'Statesman' dated 2nd March, 1995; and

(b) how far do they compare with seeds of the same grains developed abroad, in terms of their yield, water and fertilizer requirements, and their immunity from diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) At present, there is no information about the reported performance of the said varieties.

(b) In view of the position indicated above, the question of comparison does not arise.

Losses due to Natural Calamities in Tamil Nadu

1690. SHRI S. VIDUTHALAI VIRUMBI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the amount of loss in terms of rupees, incurred due to natural calamities in Tamil Nadu during the last three years as estimated and informed by the State Government;

(b) what is the amount sanctioned by the Central Government during the same period in this regard; and

(c) what is the amount actually spent by the Government of Tamil Nadu for the rehabilitation of the people affected by the natural calamities, during the same period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) Government of Tamil Nadu have reported the following losses in the State due to natural calamities during the last three years:—

Year	Loss (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	389.00
1992-93	530.00
1993-94	666.00

(b) Government of India had released Rs. 29.25 crores each, during the above three years as the Central share of Calamity Relief Fund.

(c) The State Government have reported the following expenditure on relief and rehabilitation measures in the wake of natural calamities during the last three years:—

Year	Expenditure (Rs. in crores)
1991-92	36.05
1992-93	1.06
1993-94	40.75

Production of foodgrains in Gujarat

1691. SHRI KANAKSINH MOHANSINH MANGROLA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the total production of foodgrains in Gujarat State during 1993-94 and the target fixed for the year 1994-95;

(b) whether Government have taken any steps in increase the production of foodgrains during the next financial year in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI ARVIND NETAM): (a) The total production of foodgrains in Gujarat State during 1993-94 was 37.78 lakh tonnes. Targets fixed for 1994-95 is 57.85 lakh tonnes.